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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Rajeev Joshi

Application No.: 09/731,226

Filed: December 4, 2000

For: PASSIVATION SCHEME FOR  
BUMPED WAFERS

Examiner: Vu, Hung K

Art Unit: 2811

**DECLARATION UNDER  
37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Sir:

I, Rajeev Joshi, declare as follows:

1. I am an inventor of the claimed inventions in the referenced patent application including claims 6-12 as submitted in the attached Amendment. I am currently employed by Fairchild Semiconductor, Inc., the assignee of the present application.
2. I have reviewed the Office Action mailed on July 17, 2003, including the rejections based on Wang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,362,087, which was filed on May 5, 2000.
3. Prior to May 5, 2000, I conceived of the inventions of the pending claims. Attached hereto is Exhibit A which includes a letter dated March 7, 2000 to Townsend and Townsend and Crew, LLP requesting the preparation of a

patent application based on my invention (Fairchild Docket No. 17732-19420). Also in Exhibit A are the first page of the original invention disclosure form corresponding to this patent application and attachment pages that were attached to the original invention disclosure form. Some of the figures in the attachment pages correspond to the Figures in the present application. The attachment pages are dated February 9, 2000, and show that I conceived of the invention prior to May 5, 2000.

4. A patent application was then diligently pursued up to the filing date of the present application. As evidence of this, attached are the following in Exhibit B: billing records (with billing charges and rates redacted) showing that a patent application was being prepared on various dates in June, August, and December 2000; and a fax cover sheet dated November 20, 2000, from me for suggested corrections on the draft patent application.
5. As shown by Exhibits A-B, I believe that the inventions of at least the pending claims were conceived of before the May 5, 2000 filing date of Wang et al., and a patent application was diligently pursued thereafter.
6. The inventions of at least the pending claims were conceived of in a World Trade Organization (WTO) country, and the acts relied on in this Declaration took place in a WTO country, prior to May 5, 2000.
7. I hereby declare that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I understand that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. §1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

R. Joshi  
Rajeev Joshi

October 14, 2003  
Date